THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs sanctions projects and releases grants to Non- Governmental Organizations, subject to fulfilment of requirements for release of grants like submission of application, State Government's Inspection Report, Audited Accounts etc. Shri M.K. Pradhan, worked as Minister's Personal Staff from 1-11-99 to December, 2000. During his period of service with Minister no complaints regarding his indulgence into any corrupt practice had been received in the Ministry. Further, Servants of India Society, Koraput have confirmed in writing *suo moto* that allegations involving them are totally baseless and untrue. No private person has been authorized to inspect any NGO run project and submit report. However, the BJP President, Koraput had brought to the notice of the Minister about misappropriation of funds released to the organization 'Nyaya Sahayak Samiti, Koraput' and demanded for inquiry.

(c) and (d) The essence of the allegations are not based on facts and hence no official inquiry is considered to be necessary.

(e) The funds are released in accordance with the prescribed procedure and efforts are made to release the funds in time. In some cases delays are inevitable for want of documents from the organization or inspection reports and recommendations of the State Government concerned. Appropriate steps would be taken if any specific complaint having relevance with the report arises.

Tawaria Tribe

104. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that most of the members of Tawaria tribe are involved in criminal activities all over the country;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to check the activities of these tribal people and prepare a data-base about these tribals; and

(c) the fresh steps taken / proposed to be taken by Government for rehabilitation of these tribals involved in unlawful activities?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.